(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rice and Sugar Supplied to Rajasthan

3302. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the quantity of rice and sugar supplied to Rajasthan by the Centre during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): Central Government has allotted the following quantities of rice and sugar during the last three years to Government of Rajasthan under Targeted Public Distribution System:

(Quantity in Tonnes)

Year	Rice (April-March)	Sugar (October-September)
1997-1998	56,860	2,29,540
1998-1999	47,470	2,29,540
1999-2000	15,860	2,51,208

AIMS and Objectives of Super Bazar

3303. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the aims and objectives of Super Bazar when it was set up;

(b) what is the total strength of employees in Super Bazar;

(c) whether the employees had given representations/memoranda to Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what steps Government have taken to revive the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The objectives of Super Bazar are as under:

(i) To undertake wholesale and retail distribution of consumer goods and essential commodities; and to establish department stores;

(ii) to develop an effective link betwen the producers/suppliers and the consumers with the object of transforming production on a continuous basis to suit the changing market;

(iii) to raise the quality of products and maintain standards;

(iv) to foster the growth of new products and new manufacturing units through market support and management advice;

(v) to lower distribution costs and to introduce fair and better trading practices such as fixed prices etc. and

(vi) to provide an information service to both producers and consumers.

(b) The total strength of employees in Super Bazar is 2069.

(c) and (d) A group of various staff Associations of Super Bazar had submitted a representation which inter-alia suggested to stop issue of press statements regarding the closure of Super Bazar and to sanction Rs. 25 crores as loan for running Super Bazar. The Government has not made any provision of loan to Super Bazar in the budget for the year 2000-2001. Super Bazar has its own Board of Directors to decide about its activities relating to finance, administration and business on day to day basis. Super Bazar has been advised to improve its business activities and to curtail expenditure on entertainment newspapers, transportation, overtime allowance, postponement of purchases of furniture staff cars and also to take stringent action to curb the pilferage of stocks by its staff.

Availability of More Commodities Through PDS

3304. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately decided to cut down the prices of wheat and rice to make more commodities available through Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the demand made by Gujarat for supply of different PDS items this year so far and how far the same has been complied with, indicating reasons for short-supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice under the Public Distribution System (PDS) has been reduced w.e.f. 25.7.2000 and are as follows: